

36-114
The Independent,
New York,

March 31, 1870

My dear Mr. Jamson,

I had seriously
thought, before writing
this note, that I would
make a hurried trip
to Boston, to consult
with you & with a few
others in reference to
the proposed conference
at the Fifth Avenue

114

hotel. But my hands
are so full of editorial
work that I cannot
comfortably get away
from my office.

I must say,

First, the conference
agreed with myself,
& with no other person.
If it fails, I alone will
bear the unhappy responsibility
of a failure. But I

was willing to risk
 some criticism (perhaps
 some absolute odium)
 in the hope that, with
 prosperous fate, I
 might accomplish a
 great good.

Second, I have
 thought best, in starting
 the conference, to take
 no particular counsel
 in advance with ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~British~~ ^{British}

interested parties on
both sides — particularly
Mrs. Stanton & Miss Anthony.
I have not seen them,
nor spoken with them,
nor written to them
for nearly half a
year. I did write
to Mrs. Stone, but
mainly for the sake
of saying that I

hoped she would be
near the Boston
members:

Thus, the real and
my object of the
modulation is to
make an impartial
peace — not as
the interest of one
party or of the other,
but as the interests

of the great outside
multitude who are
bewildered by the
fact that there are
two secrets. As for
myself, even if there
were no personal
antagonisms involved,
I could not join
the New York Society.

because it makes an
 absurd & unjust course of
 restriction against
 men — offering itself
 entirely by women —
 what is an abandonment
 of the very equality —
 for which the society
 pretends to be a
 champion. On the
 other hand, I am

thoroughly opposed to
the close: communion,
with bread, and
unfulfilled constitution
of the Boston Society,
about, by reserving
its privilege of
voting to delegates,
rather than by justly
extending the same

right to see the
individual members,

seems to me to
note the true

status of an
American university
organization. I

must admit better
than the free, good,

colleges plan of
the American Anti-Slavery

freely — which gave
a voice to every member
who wished to speak, and
a vote to every member
who wished to vote.

Fourth, of the

Boston Society would

commissary ⁱⁿ to

be one of its committee,

I believe you never

A fairer & impartially-
made treaty contribute
to a just settlement.

At all events, speaking
for myself, I can
only express the hope
that whoever comes
will come in a spirit
of accommodation
& good will.

31-114

I have
written these hurried
lines at Mr. Plummer's
suggestion, who thinks
that perhaps you have
not altogether understood
the design of the
conference, in the
spirit of its prime-movers.

Always affectionately yours,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison